



INDIANA STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

TO: State Board of Education
FROM: Alicia Kielmovitch, Senior Director of Policy and Legislation
RE: Local CTE Concentrators – Proposed Framework for Approval
DATE: April 23, 2018

Mission of Career and Technical Education: The mission of Career and Technical Education (CTE) in Indiana is to ensure an education system of high quality and equity for the academic achievement and career preparation of all Indiana students. Students in Indiana’s secondary CTE programs will gain the knowledge, skills, and abilities needed for success in postsecondary education and economically viable career opportunities.

Definition of CTE Concentrator: A CTE Concentrator is a student who has earned at least six credits in CTE pathway courses in a state-approved College and Career Pathway (Program of Study). Indiana College and Career Pathways are defined by the State Board of Education as an aligned sequence of secondary and postsecondary courses that: 1) lead to a meaningful postsecondary outcome (i.e., industry-recognized credential, technical certification, or associate/baccalaureate degree), 2) are aligned with high-wage and/or high-demand job opportunities in Indiana, and 3) were developed with input from business and industry, secondary and postsecondary education, and the public.

Context: The Department of Education (DOE) began an application process for schools/districts to create Local CTE Concentrators in February. This application was published on the DOE’s website in March. HEA 1426, subsequently enacted by the 2018 General Assembly, states, “The State Board, in consultation with the Department of Workforce Development and the Commission for Higher Education, shall approve college and career pathways relating to career and technical educators including sequences of courses leading to concentrators.” To meet this statutory responsibility and simplify this process for local schools, Board and DOE staff are working to develop a consolidated Local CTE Concentrator framework and application.

A. Proposed Criteria for Approval of Local CTE Concentrator:

- 1) **Collaboration:** Local CTE Concentrator Pathways must be developed in collaboration (or partnership) with business & industry, postsecondary education & training providers, and/or community organizations. Optional partners may include neighboring schools/districts, career and technical education centers, and other local partners (e.g., Workforce Investment Boards, Chambers of Commerce, Economic Development Boards, etc.). NOTE: Local CTE Concentrators **must** be aligned to careers that are high wage and/or high demand;
- 2) **Competency:** Local CTE Concentrator Pathways **must** lead to an industry-recognized credential, technical certification, stackable credits for an associate or bachelor degree, or other meaningful postsecondary education/training and/or employment opportunities; AND
- 3) **Continuous Improvement:** Local CTE Concentrator Pathways must be evaluated and continuously improved based upon the evaluation at the local level. Applicant will serve as a model and point of contact for other districts interested in creating a similar pathway.



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B. Proposed Application Process for 2018-19 Academic Year:

- SBOE staff, in consultation with the Commission of Higher Education (CHE), Department of Education (DOE), and Department of Workforce Development (DWD) will review Local CTE Concentrator applications and draft a recommendation for the Board's consideration.
- SBOE will approve, table, or reject the Local CTE Concentrator.
 - a. *Approved Local CTE Concentrators:* Joins the state's "Indiana College & Career Pathways" and all Indiana schools may start utilizing those new course sequences immediately. It is recommended that schools look at regional economic data to determine if this Pathway aligns with the needs of business and industry. If adopted by another school or district, the Local CTE Concentrator's model must be the same, though the components (e.g., collaborator) may change. If an adopted Pathway differs substantively (i.e. the competency and postsecondary outcomes), the school must resubmit the new Local CTE Concentrator for approval. Schools will present annual reports of Local CTE Concentrator's effectiveness to the Board.
 - b. *Tabled/Rejected Local CTE Concentrators:* SBOE (in addition to DOE, CHE, and DWD) staff will work with applicant over the next two months to address issues and resubmit.

C. Proposed Application Timeline for 2018:

- The Graduation Pathways are effective beginning with the class of 2023, though students *may* opt-in to a Graduation Pathway in lieu of the graduation qualifying examinations prior to then. As such, there is no requirement that schools establish a Local CTE Concentrator prior to 2018-19. Schools may use 2018-19 as a planning year for the development of their Local CTE Concentrator Pathway(s).
- **May 2018:** Board approves Framework; directs staff to create application for Local CTE Concentrators that will be posted on the [SBOE website](#). The application may merge with the current [LCP application](#) to streamline the application process for local schools.]
- **May 2018: Application reviews open; applications reviewed on a rolling basis through August.**
 - SBOE, CHE, DOE, and DWD staff will review individual applications within thirty (30) business days from receipt of application.
 - During the Initial Review, the Review Team may request additional information and/or ask clarifying or follow-up questions regarding the application as part of the due diligence process. All responses must be provided to the Review Team within ten (10) business days of the date of the initial request. In addition, requests for updates and/or changes to the application may be made to strengthen the Local CTE Concentrator.
 - SBOE staff will draft a recommendation for SBOE consideration; recommendation will be shared with applicant and SBOE at least one (1) week before the next scheduled Board meeting, per standard operating SBOE procedures.
- **June thru October 2018:** SBOE will consider staff recommendation and approve, table, or reject pathway at next scheduled Board meeting on a rolling basis for 2018-19 school year.
- **August 2018:** SBOE staff create timeline for Local Pathway applications for 2019-20 and forward.